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wage. Considerable statistical matter is presented in this connection, showing the effect of low wages and bad conditions on health and morals.

The author's statement of the case is concise, logical and interesting. It presents the wage question from essentially the same point of view as that held by the consumers' leagues. The chief criticism to be offered is that the author's theory savors strongly of the iron law of wages and the Marxian theory of value.

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*Child Labor in City Streets.* By EDWARD N. CLOPPER. New York: Macmillan, 1912. 8vo. pp. x+280. \$1.25 net.

Dr. Clopper demonstrates in this book that the worst form of child labor—that in the city streets—is subject to little or no regulation. That this form of child labor has been neglected more than that in the factory, is due, he reasons, (1) to the familiarity of the public with the newsboy, bootblack, messenger boy, and others, which has caused a general disregard of the real demoralizing conditions of the work, and (2) to the erroneous conception that the youthful street trader is an “independent little merchant” who is receiving valuable business training. Although the author discredits this reasoning on the latter point, he fails to make his case as strong as he might have done, if he had likened street trading to the contract or piece-work systems in vogue in certain industries such as garment-making.

The book sets forth the conditions under which the child laborer of the streets works, and the limited extent to which regulation has been carried in both the United States and in Europe. Many significant statements are quoted from the reports of various investigating commissions, as tending to prove the direct relation of vice, retardation, etc., to unregulated child labor in city streets. *Prohibition*, so far as this may be attained, is the remedy suggested, with regulation where prohibition is impossible.

An extended bibliography and appendices are included in the volume. Appendix A gives the law of Wisconsin relative to street trading, which is the best law of any state on the subject.

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*The Story of Cotton.* By EUGENE CLYDE BROOKS. Chicago: Rand, McNally & Co., 1911. 8vo, pp. x+370. \$0.75.

Written, primarily, as a textbook for the upper grades of high schools, *The Story of Cotton* has features that will make it useful as collateral reading in economic history for elementary university courses. The beginnings of cotton culture, the difficulties involved in the early manufacture of cotton, and the methods used to surmount these difficulties are described in a simple and interesting style. The first half of the volume is a résumé of the industrial revolution from the standpoint of America and cotton, and Professor Brooks succeeds in making a familiar story decidedly attractive. In his later chapters

the author, in the vein of a thoroughgoing exponent of the "materialistic conception of history," writes the history of the southern states. The division of America into the cotton and the non-cotton states; the political consequences of this division resulting in the tariff issue and eventually the Civil War are traced; the immediate effects of the war, the difficulties of the reconstruction period, and the ultimate industrial awakening of the South are described, all in terms of cotton. The closing chapters contain simple explanations of the processes of cotton manufacturing, the culture of the cotton plant, the different varieties of cotton, and the growing uses of its by-products. Professor Brooks has infused into the prosy subject of cotton a flavor of romance, which will make his book doubly valuable as a text.

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*The Economic Outlook.* By EDWIN CANNAN. London: T. Fisher Unwin, 1912. 8vo, pp. 312. 5s. net.

Professor Cannan has here collected eleven papers that he has struck off on one occasion or another and has put them into permanent form under the above title. With a single exception they deal with problems in economic organization such as the poor laws, pauperism, socialism and municipal ownership, and the application of economic principles to them. The exception referred to is a carefully written paper on Ricardo in parliament. Ricardo is here set in a most attractive light as one busied with the practical affairs of the kingdom in a large-minded and genuine way. The records show his vote and influence invariably thrown on the side of freedom and enlightenment. The author points out in the introduction that this article is in the nature of an addendum to his *History of the Theories of Production and Distribution from 1776 to 1884*, in which he maintained that with the early nineteenth-century economists "practical aims were paramount and the advancement of the science secondary." It is easily the best thing in the collection. On the whole, however, these papers, written for the most part for special occasions and with regard to some current problem, lack the freshness which they had in the time that called them forth and have not the solid qualities that would make them of really permanent value. They scarcely deserved to be exhumed and put into book form.

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*Educated Working Women.* By CLARA E. COLLET. London: P. S. King & Son, 1912. 8vo, pp. vii+143. 2s. net.

This is a reprint in book form of six well-written essays on the economic position of women workers of the middle classes in England during the last half of the nineteenth century. Census statistics are presented to show the existence, in these classes during that period, of far more women than men. The economic sequel of this unequal distribution of the sexes is pointed out to